
The Poetry of Theatre

The aim of the Institute in Theatre is to rediscover how rich dramatic literature can be and to explore how this richness can be transmitted through reading and performance in the classroom. The Institute will find its central curricular focus in the Poetry of Theatre seminar, which all participants and faculty members will attend. Bread Loaf also has in residence an Acting Ensemble of eight Equity actors who will meet with the classes from time to time. Participants will also enroll in either *Carnival, Theatre, and Gender in Shakespeare's Plays* or *Contemporary Drama: Beckett and Beyond* while auditing the other.

In addition, participants may undertake special projects in theatre, such as directing or acting in workshop projects, one-act plays, or the summer's major production.

During the subsequent academic year, members of the Ensemble will, as their schedules permit, accept invitations to spend, on average, three days in a participant's school adapting the seminar methods to the needs of the particular classroom.

Preference will be given to those secondary school teachers of dramatic literature with strong backgrounds in English literature.

In addition to transcripts and letters of recommendation, applicants will be asked to describe their roles in teaching dramatic literature and producing theatre in their schools. Their principals must certify that they will support the applicant with a grant of \$200 and will encourage the teacher's efforts to involve the Bread Loaf Acting Ensemble in his or her classes during the school year.

Participants will receive a full-tuition scholarship (\$2010), room and board on campus (\$1010), and a stipend of \$250 per week for expenses. Courses may be taken for graduate credit; Institute auditors will be excused from exams but are expected to participate fully in all other class activities.

The Courses

Carnival, Theatre, and Gender in Shakespeare's Plays (Ms. Wofford)

This course will consider the significance of acting, the place of the theatre, and the politics of gender in Shakespeare's plays. We will discuss ways in which the plays symbolize cultural ambivalences — that which is repressed, denied, marginalized or marked as "other." We will consider what images or definitions of authority are provided in the plays, and how such concepts are altered, undermined, or affirmed by the radical treatment of acting that they offer.

Contemporary Drama: Beckett and Beyond (Mr. Cadden)

A study of five of the most important playwrights now writing for the stage, this course will examine dramatic structure as world view. Radical definitions of the self and its position in relation to history characterize all the work by Beckett, Pinter, Fugard, Shepard, and Churchill we will be examining. We will pay particular attention to how later playwrights use and abuse their Beckettian legacy, giving his metaphysical theatre a social and political context.

The Poetry of Theatre (Mr. Mokler)

This seminar will study plays from the two literature courses and other selected works. The students will work with members of the Acting Ensemble on various aspects of the theatre: the way an actor can transform a scene by emphasizing such qualities as sexuality, aggression, or tenderness; how different types of music can affect the meaning of a scene; how rhythmic choices within lines and between scenes can create meaning; how the visual presentation of a scene through settings and costumes can establish a metaphor for the deepest meaning of the play itself.

The Faculty

Michael Cadden, B.A., Yale; B.A., University of Bristol, England; D.F.A., Yale School of Drama. Assistant Professor of English, Princeton.

Alan Mokler, B.A., M.A., Stanford; M.F.A., Yale. Director of the Program in Theatre and Dance at Princeton, and Director of the Acting Ensemble at Bread Loaf.

Susanne Wofford, A.B., Ph.D., Yale. The Charles G. B. Murphy Assistant Professor of English, Yale.

For more information and an official application, please write to:

Paul M. Cubeta
Project Administrator
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Middlebury College
Middlebury, Vermont 05753
(802)-388-3711 x. 5418



The Bread Loaf School of English is a community of teachers and students devoted to the humanistic ideals of the liberal arts in graduate education. It believes that its goals can best be achieved by attracting to Bread Loaf distinguished scholar-teachers who are dedicated practitioners of a great art. The emphasis at Bread Loaf has always been upon the personal bond between teacher and student, upon the creative, critical and organic, rather than the mechanical and pedantic, and upon the liveliness of writing, literature and theatre. The School assumes no artificial barriers among these disciplines, and its program works constantly to establish connections among them.

Since 1920 the School of English has nourished its heritage of literary study in the pleasant coolness of a wooded mountain bowl remote from the distractions and contaminations of metropolitan life. In the congenial natural environment of Bread Loaf it is possible to sustain the intellect and the spirit in a refreshing balance of society and solitude.

Middlebury College
MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

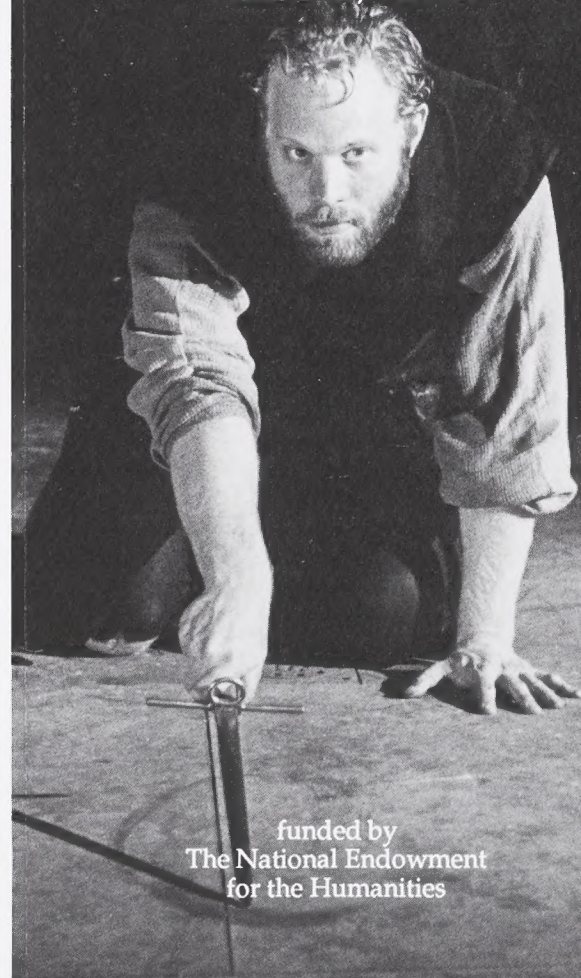
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The Bread Loaf School of English

NEH Institute in The Poetry of Theatre

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